







## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is an annual campaign to encourage Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, businesses, and communities. NPM is led by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is sponsored by its Ready Campaign in partnership with the Citizen Corps Program. While September is the month for recognizing national preparedness, the goal is to engage the public to make preparedness a part of their daily lives every day and not one single month.

## Pledge to Prepare - Become a **National Coalition Member**

Building community resilience requires close coordination between the government, community organizations, individuals and emergency managers to plan for the needs of the whole community - that's where the National Preparedness Coalition Members come in.



The National Preparedness Coalition is the nation's public online forum organized to improve our Nation's resilience against all-hazards. It is comprised of individuals engaged in preparedness – and those who want to be engaged in preparedness - who are committed to strengthening, sustaining and enhancing the resilience of their communities. Coalition members Pledge to Prepare – that is, take actions which will strengthen their own personal, family and community preparedness capabilities.

Coalition Members bridge the gap between all levels of government and the public through emergency preparedness education and events. By expanding the emergency management team to include entire communities, coalition members help improve national preparedness and resilience.



## **Benefits of Becoming a National Coalition Member**

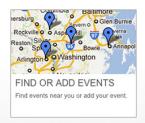
The National Preparedness Coalition has access to a FREE online community where members can share information, learn what others are doing and find tools and resources to help in the mission to strengthen community resilience and preparedness across the nation. Coalition members can:

NETWORK: connect with peers and like-minded individuals from across the country to enhance your own activities back home. With many communities across the country facing tight budgets and resource



shortfalls take advantage of this FREE and easy way to share ideas, tools, activities and other techniques to build your preparedness capabilities.

PLAN: add and view preparedness related events on an interactive calendar. You can let other Coalition members know what you're doing in your community by adding your event, posting details such as location and



activity information and even gauge the level of interest in your event. See what others in your area are doing and join in!

 DISCUSS: participate in engaging discussion forums with trending topics related to preparedness and emergency management. Coalition members have access to multiple forums both on the national and



regional levels. National level forums include:

- Youth preparedness
- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- General member stories and others.

Regional forums allow you to connect with those members who are more local to your area of the United States.

If you have a question about preparedness, how to accomplish something, if you want to share what you've done so others may learn, these forums are for you!

### SPREAD the WORD:

Access ready-to-use templates, posters, web banners, traditional and social media resources to assist with spreading the message of preparedness in your community. We



encourage you to get others to sign up and we have the tools to help you do it.



FEMA, along with state partners, put up billboards around the NJ area to get people information and emphasize the importance of preparedness. -- Tim Pioppo/FEMA

Upon becoming a member of the National Preparedness Coalition you can take what you learn from other members, implement new approaches in your community and encourage others to sign up and commit to taking simple steps to be better prepared before a disaster strikes.



As part of National Preparedness Month, FEMA employees manned information booths to help build public awareness and provide booth visitors with preparedness materials for home, family, school, business and individuals with disabilities and special needs. FEMA News Photo

# Pledge Today

By registering to become a member of the National Preparedness Coalition you will help us build a more secure and resilient Nation.

Signing up is FREE and will take less than one minute of your time. Visit <a href="http://ready.gov/pledge">http://ready.gov/pledge</a> and join over 6,000 national coalition members making a difference.

#### Contact us

Visit: http://ready.gov/pledge

Email: citizencorps@dhs.gov

ready@dhs.gov

